

DIME NOVEL ROUND-UP

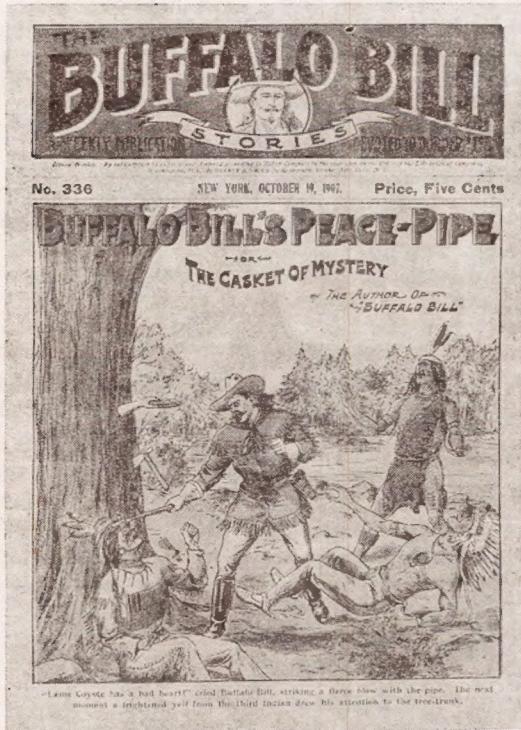


A monthly magazine devoted to the collecting, preservation and literature of the old-time dime and nickel novels, libraries and popular story papers.

Vol. 30 No. 1

January 15, 1962

Whole No. 352



DIME NOVEL SKETCHES #29

BUFFALO BILL STORIES

One of Street & Smith's most successful weeklies. Began May 18, 1901 and continued for 591 issues until September 7, 1912. It was continued as New Buffalo Bill Weekly which lasted another 364 numbers until August 30, 1919. It measured 8x10, earlier issues were slightly larger size, 32 pages, with brilliant colored cover. (See DNR Nos. 342 and 343 for full reprinting information).

A VISIT WITH DON & GRACIE

by Harold Poore

After numerous postponements, we were at last ready to take our trip east to visit Don Learnard, a friend through correspondence for many years. We got started on Wednesday, October 4 using the Ohio Turnpike, the New York Thruway and the Massachusetts Turnpike. We arrived in Boston at about 6 p.m. October 5, called Don on the phone and as they had plans for the evening told him we would see him next morning. After getting on the freeway we headed south for Weymouth and put up at a motel in the neighborhood. Next morning we reached the sign of the Three Black Crows. Don came out to greet us and escorted us in and made us feel right at home. They are a wonderful couple. Mary, my wife, and Gracie hit it off right away, so Don says let's go to the basement. I've heard about that room where they do their entertaining. It was all that I had expected. Here we discussed dime novels, *Liberty Boys* is Don's favorite and he has a nearly complete set.

Before we knew, the time had flown by and as planned we all headed for Ralph Cummings' place in South Grafton (Fisherville renamed). Ralph was at home and made us welcome. Ralph and I roamed the upstairs and what a collection he has. You name it and he has it. He is one swell boy. After a nice visit we left for Don's home and

arrived in the late afternoon. As we had to be back to work on Monday we decided to leave that evening. We waited for the rush hour traffic to subside and headed back home. We will be back next year for a longer visit and see some of the other members. Thanks again Don and Gracie for making us welcome, you are both so nice, we really enjoyed meeting you.

The End

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

1961

Expenses:

Publishing cost including	
postage	\$698.00
Photography & stat'nry	44.45
Total Expenses	\$742.45

Income:

Subscriptions	330.00
Advertising	156.95
Sales of back issues, etc.	15.00
Contributions	38.72
Total Income	540.67
Net Loss	\$201.78

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in TIP TOP WEEKLY

Stories of Frank and Dick Merriwell and Tip Top Weekly are my specialty. Have hundreds in good condition at reasonable prices. Send want list.

GUINON, Box 214, Little Rock, Ark.

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January 15, 1962

Whole No. 352

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821 Vermont Street, Lawrence, Kansas

Edited by

Edward T. LeBlanc, 87 School St., Fall River, Mass.

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Assistant Editor

Ralph F. Cummings, 161 Pleasant St., S. Grafton, Mass.

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Ads should be submitted by the 15th of the month in order to assure publication in the following month's issue.

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NEWSY NEWS

by Ralph F. Cummings
 161 Pleasant St., So. Grafton, Mass.

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Smith had a swell time down in the Blue Ridge Mountains and the Smokies in North Carolina and Tennessee. Up the mountains there it is over 6000 feet high, and very cool at night, even in July

and August. They saw 16 bears along side of the roads and woods at different times.

P. J. Moran, 2040 Almond Avenue, Concord, Calif. has almost a complete set of Ted Strong—thick books in the Western Story Library, also a lot of the Adventure Library, Wm. Wallace Cooks for sale, all in good condition—anyone interested?

PUBLICATION OF BIBLIOGRAPHIC LISTINGS

At the urging of many subscribers to the Dime Novel Round-up, the publisher has undertaken the issuance of Bibliographic Listings at an accelerated pace. Due to the high cost of printing, it has been necessary to print them in a less expensive format. They will be "dittoed" on standard size paper, 8½x11 and punched for binding in a standard three ring binder.

Ready for immediate mailing

No. 1 Boys of America (Street & Smith) 9 pages. Compiled by Edward T. LeBlanc	-----	.50
No. 2 Golden Hours, 46 pages. Compiled by Donald L. Steinhauer	-----	1.00
No. 3 Golden Argosy/Argosy (to the 1890's). 35 pages. Compiled by Stanley A. Pachon	-----	1.00

To be issued during 1962

No. 4 Beadles Frontier Series. Compiled by Denis R. Rogers
No. 5 Boys and Girls Weekly. Compiled by J. P. Guinon
No. 6 The Hearthstone. Compiled by Denis R. Rogers

These listings contain all serials featured in each publication listed in two parts. The first listing is in chronological order with dates of publication and all information known about reprintings. The second is an alphabetic listing by author with known pseudonyms.

THE SUPPLY IS LIMITED SO GET YOUR ORDER IN EARLY

Edward T. LeBlanc

87 School Street

Fall River, Mass.

TIP TOP WEEKLY LOCATIONS

by Arthur N. Carter

Many Merriwell readers have probably wondered what towns Patten had in mind when he wrote the famous stories about Frank and Dick Merriwell.

Before we go any further I can assure readers of the Round-up that Patten used the State of Maine almost exclusively for his locations even when the plot and location apparently were in some other state or locality.

Knox County, Maine, seemed to be one of the author's favorite localities, as in my research work covering this article I recognized many of the Merriwell name locations as originating from this county.

There have been quite a few friendly arguments, as to just what location Patten had in mind concerning Fardale Military Academy. Some old readers have this school located as far west as Indiana.

No one knows for certain, but in deriving some information from a librarian in Corinna, Maine, I was informed that Union Academy near Corinna was Patten's story base for Fardale. Many of the towns mentioned in the Merriwell stories were based on fact. Fardale's opponents in football and baseball, such as Franklin, Uniontown and some others were actual Maine towns.

Concerning the town of Bloomfield, the small town where Frank Merriwell first lived with his Uncle Asher. I have run across many comments in the Applause Column stating that both Indiana and New Jersey were the states containing Frank's home town, but again I don't agree with the readers.

I believe that Brownfield, Maine, in Oxford County was the town that Patten was referring to, as Wells, Maine, Pittston, Maine, and Springvale, Maine mentioned in the Merriwell stories are in nearby York County. Pittston and Wells (Wellsburg) were mentioned as being school rivals of Farnham Hall, the Physical Culture School Frank conducted after marrying Inza Burrage.

Quite a bit of comment was noted

in the Applause Column about the Blue Hills mentioned in a series of Tip Tops telling of Dick Merriwell spending his summer vacation in the Blue Hills and playing baseball with his Fardale chums. A Dorchester, Mass., writer wrote in the Applause Column stating how proud he was that the Blue Hills situated near Boston was the camp spot selected by Dick and his friends. This seems rather ridiculous as the Blue Hills mentioned by the reader are so near Boston and other large cities that this possibility was definitely not in the author's mind in writing these stories.

Today's admirers and collectors of the Tip Top Weekly will remember the very interesting character Madge of Mad Lake, which should put the location of Patten's Blue Hills way up in Northern Maine, near the Canadian border, as the actual town of Madawaska was mentioned (also Madawaska Lake situated nearby) and this town was one of the baseball rivals of the town Dick's team represented, Pine-wood I believe it was.

In other baseball tours indulged in by Frank or Dick, several Maine towns were mentioned some altered somewhat by the author. For example Pine Point was mentioned. This is an actual Maine village. Torrenton, another baseball rival, could have been Thomaston. Fairhaven mentioned as an island town in the stories could very well have been Vinalhaven.

Maplewood, the town that Frank represented in earlier Tip Tops could have been Mapletown, another actual Maine town. Larger towns of course were mentioned throughout the series, such as Camden, Belfast, Rockland, and many others.

I would welcome comments from other Round-Up readers on this subject.

The end

BACK NUMBERS

of Reckless Ralph's Dime Novel Roundup Nos. 1 to 237 for sale.

Ralph F. Cummings
161 Pleasant St., So. Grafton, Mass.

FOR SALE

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J. P. GUINON

P. O. Box 214

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